

Message Text

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41

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 VO-03 SCA-01 JUSE-00 INSE-00 SIL-01

LAB-06 FBIE-00 AGR-20 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07

PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 DRC-01 ARAE-00 EB-11

COME-00 TRSE-00 /124 W

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FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3414

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MEXICO 7159

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PBOR, MX

SUBJ: ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS: REACTION TO FONSEC NOTE OF AUGUST 20

REF: MEXICO 7147

1. IN LEAD EDITORIAL FOR AUGUST 22, GOM-CONTROLLED NACIONAL SAYS, "MEXICO INSISTS: THERE IS A BRACERO PROBLEM." THE EDITORIAL CITES AN "INSINUATION" ALLEGEDLY CONTAINED IN THE U.S. NOTE OF JULY 26 TO THE EFFECT THAT "MEXICO FAVORS OR ENCOURAGES THE EMIGRATION OF ITS WORKERS." (AS DEPARTMENT AWARE, OUR NOTE CONTAINED NO SUCH INSINUATION). THE EDITORIAL ASSERTS THAT ONCE MEXICAN WORKERS (INCLUDING ILLEGALS) ENTER THE U.S., THEY ARE DISCRIMINATED AGAINST AND THEIR HUMAN RIGHTS ARE VIOLATED; "WHEN THEY ARE NO LONGER NEEDED, THEY ARE ARRESTED AND DEPORTED." THE EDITORIAL REPEATS THE MEXICAN VIEW ON THE QUESTION OF WHETHER THERE IS A NEED FOR MEXICAN LABORERS IN THE U.S., I.E., WITHOUT DISPUTING USG ASSERTIONS ABOUT UNEMPLOYMENT IN THE U.S., THE EDITORIAL SAYS THAT THE WORK PERFORMED BY MEXICANS IS TOO HARD FOR U.S. WORKERS WHO PREFER TO ENROLL THEMSELVES ON WELFARE ROLLS.

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2. NACIONAL ALSO REPORTS AT LENGTH ON A BILL PRESENTED IN THE U.S. SENATE BY SENATOR MONTOYA, CALLING FOR A COMMISSION TO STUDY THE NEED FOR FOREIGN LABORERS IN THE U.S.

3. AN EDITORIAL IN EXCELSIOR STRONGLY SUPPORTS THE FONSEC'S AUGUST 20 NOTE. THE EDITORIAL CITES "VIOLENT REPRESSION" AGAINST MEXICAN WORKERS BY U.S. AUTHORITIES, INSISTS THAT THERE IS A DEMAND FOR MEXICAN LABOR IN THE U.S., ECHOES THE FONSEC COMMENT THAT THIS IS A BILATERAL PROBLEM WHICH CANNOT BE SOLVED BY UNILATERAL MEASURES, AND COMMENDS THE FONSEC FOR ASSUMING A FIRM POSTURE ON THE ISSUE AND INSISTING ON NEGOTIATIONS.

4. CONSERVATIVE HERALDO DOES NOT EDITORIALIZE BUT CITES EMBASSY SPOKESMAN, IN RESPONSE TO A QUERY, AS REFERRING INQUIRER TO THE CLEAR POSITION OF THE USG ON ILLEGALS ISSUE CONTAINED IN EMBASSY STATEMENT FOLLOWING DELIVERY OF U.S. NOTE OF JULY 26.

5. MODERATE NOVEDADES ALSO EDITORIALY SUPPORTS THE FONSEC'S NEW NOTE, MERELY NOTING THAT THE MIGRATORY WORKER PROBLEM IS WORLDWIDE IN SCOPE. THE EDITORIAL CONDEMNS THE USE OF "REPRESSIVE MEASURES" AGAINST MEXICAN WORKERS.

6. COMMENT: THERE IS NOTHING NEW IN THE ARGUMENTS ADVANCED IN EDITORIAL COMMENT ON THIS ISSUE, ALTHOUGH THE QUESTION OF WHETHER OR NOT THERE IS A "DEMAND" FOR MEXICAN LABOR IN THE U.S. HAS EMERGED AS A POINT ON WHICH USG AND GOM VIEWS ARE DIAMETRICALLY OPPOSED. IN THE OFFICIAL LINE REFLECTED BY NACIONAL (PARA 1 ABOVE), THERE IS A REITERATION OF THE CLEAR IMPLICATION MADE BY PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA IN A JULY 6 PRESS CONFERENCE: THAT U.S. EMPLOYERS AND THE USG ARE IN COLLUSION IN "ARRESTING AND DEPORTING" ILLEGALS "WHEN THEY ARE NO LONGER NEEDED."

7. ACTION REQUESTED: PLEASE INFORM THE EMBASSY ON SENATOR MONTOYA'S BILL (PARA 2 ABOVE).
JOVA

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